REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7, 20-27 and 30-39 are active.

Support for Claim 39 is found in the specification on page 6, line 10.

No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 1-7, 9-17, 30, 32-33 and 35-38 are allowed.

The rejection of Claim 19 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph is no longer applicable as Claim 19 has been cancelled.

The rejection of Claims 19-27 and 31 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph is no longer applicable, in part, and respectfully traversed, in part. That is Claim 19 has been cancelled.

The specification provides several examples (specifically Examples 26-33) describing details as to how to test the effects of these compounds in *in vivo* assays.

Example 26 describes *in vivo* testing for ovulation (see pp. 49).

Example 27 describes *in vivo* testing of broncho-constriction (see pp. 50).

Example 28 describes *in vivo* testing of LPS-TNFα inhibition (see pp. 52).

Example 29 describes *in vivo* testing for penile blood flow (see pp. 53).

Example 30 describes *in vivo* testing of bone loss (see pp. 55).

Example 31 describes *in vivo* testing of COPD (see pp. 60).

Example 32 describes *in vivo* testing of anti-inflammatory properties in colitis (see pp. 61).

Example 33 describes *in vivo* testing for gastric ulceration inhibition (see pp. 62).

As acknowledged by the Office, EP4 inhibition data are present but those data are discounted because at least in part, the nexus between the data and the treatment of disorders is not provided. However, the specification does provide a nexus between the ability to inhibit the EP receptor and the effect that this has on certain disorders. For example, on page 2 of the specification, it is described how EP receptor is correlated to ovulation, blood pressure, closure of ductus arteriosus, bone resporption, erectile disfunction, and anti-inflammatory activity.

Further, it is described in the last paragraph of page 2 that EP2 agonists have been shown to be useful for the treatment of osteoporosis, bone disorders, erectile dysfunction, among others.

Thus, the showing of inhibition of EP4 and the correlation of EP receptors with the guidance provided as to further assays provides the requisite enabling disclosure for one to practice the methods as claimed herein. That is, the methods are as follows:

- undesired blood clotting
- erectile dysfunction
- ovulatory disorders
- bone loss
- hypertension
- asthma, chronic obstructive respiratory disease and emphysema
- pre-term labo
- undesired muscle contraction
- inflammation

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph is no longer applicable.

Claim 8 has been amended to include "is."

Claims 18 and 28 have been cancelled.

Claim 34 has been amended to depend from claim 33 with the further clarification that the process is to obtain a compound of formula IV.

Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

A Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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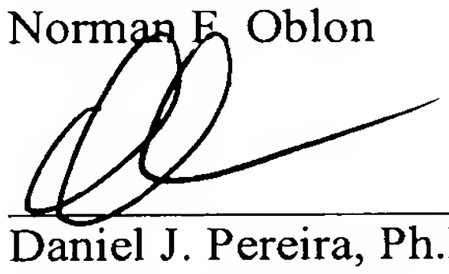
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



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